

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2937

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5050

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KN, KS

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN APPROACH TO WALDHEIM

REF: USUN 5013

1. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM SPOKE WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT MORNING OCTOBER 15 TO ASK THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER BE ADVISED OF FURTHER APPROACH TO HIM BY NORTH KOREANS IN ADDITION TO THAT REPORTED IN HIS RECENT LETTER TO SECRETARY, REPORTED IN USUN 4840.

2. WALDHEIM SAID HE HAD HAD A FIFTY-FIVE MINUTE CONVERSATION WITH VICE FONMIN OF DPRK (HERE IN PREPARATION OF KOREAN DEBATE) AT LATTER'S REQUEST ON OCTOBER 13. NORTH KOREAN OFFICIAL HAD EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ALGERIA AND ALLIES WOULD HAVE MAJORITY VOTE IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION THEY ARE COSPONSORING ON KOREAN ITEM ON BEHALF NORTH KOREA. AT SAME TIME HE INDICATED TO WALDHEIM THAT NORTH KOREA WOULD NOW LIKE TO TALK WITH U.S.

3. WALDHEIM EMPHASIZED SEVERAL TIMES DURING CONVERSATION THAT HE HAD FAITHFULLY PRESENTED U.S. POSITION TO NORTH KOREAN CALLER. VICE FONMIN SAID HE WAS AWARE OF U.S. VIEWS THAT ROK MUST BE INCLUDED IN TALKS AND THEREFORE HE WAS PROPOSING PARALLEL NEGOTIATIONS -- ONE SET BETWEEN DPRK AND U.S. AND A PARALLEL SET BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS. HE ARGUED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENT PROPOSALS TO DISCUSS. WITH U.S. THEY WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS PEACE TREATY AND PRESENCE OF
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U.S. TROOPS ON KOREAN TERRITORY; WITH ROK THEY WOULD

WISH TO DISCUSS RESPECTIVE KOREAN ROLES AND A POSSIBLE CONFEDERATION. VICE FOMMIN PRESENTED PARALLEL TRACK AS WAY OF BRINGING IN ROK.

4. BENNETT ASKED WHETHER NORTH KOREANS HAD GIVEN ANY REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL THAT A CONFERENCE BE HELD WITH PARTICIPATION OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES. WALDHEIM REPEATED THAT HE HAD FAITHFULLY REPRESENTED U.S. POSITION IN THIS REGARD AS WELL AS IN OTHERS. NORTH KOREANS INDICATED AWARENESS OF KISSINGER'S PROPOSALS BUT INSISTED THERE WERE TWO SEPARATE MATTERS AND TWO SEPARATE ROLES INVOLVED AND THEREFORE THEY WERE INTERESTED IN PARALLEL TRACK NEGOTIATIONS.

5. SYG WALDHEIM ASKED THAT THIS LATEST APPROACH BY NORTH KOREANS BE PASSED ON TO SECSTATE AND BENNETT ASSURED HIM IT WOULD BE DONE WITHOUT DELAY.
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